



GRANT RECIPIENT
LAKE COUNTY PARKS AND
RECREATION

YEAR
2008

COUNTY
LAKE

CATEGORY
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

GRANT AWARD
\$97,500

LOCAL SHARE
\$97,500



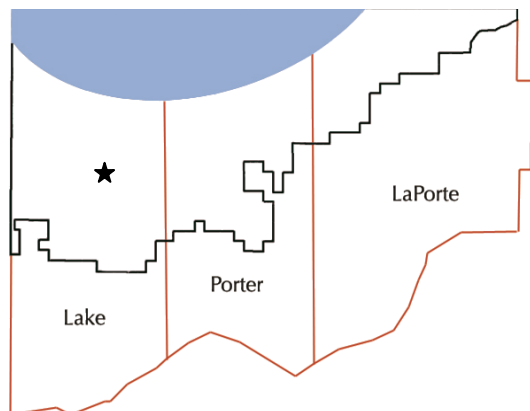
FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Chesterton, IN 46304
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Beaver Dam Wetland Restoration

As urban sprawl becomes more apparent in Northwest Indiana, projects such as the Beaver Dam Wetland Restoration are increasingly important to the vitality of human and ecosystem health. In the past, many wetlands in Northwest Indiana were drained for development and agriculture. We currently understand the large importance that wetlands provide for human and ecosystem services, such as water filtration, indicating that wetlands are crucial to society.

This project, with assistance from Ducks Unlimited, restored hydrology to over 200 acres of wetlands in Lake County, utilizing a series of water control structures, levees, and earthwork. These systems allow the storage of water in three moist soil units in late winter/early spring, and fall/early winter. A water management plan was prepared that outlined the appropriate water structure settings in concert with precipitation patterns. Water held in the unit's ranges in depths from a matter of inches to approximately 3 foot deep in the lower areas. By creating a range of depths, and thus habitats, this is allowing for maximum species diversity. The result is a project that is not only good for native plants and animals, but human health as well.



RESULT: Ecological restoration of 200 acres of wetland.